



CITY ATTORNEY

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May 1, 2019

Councilmember Glover,

I am writing to apologize for my handling of your cross-examination at Monday's hearing. Faced with the conundrum of cross-examining a sitting Councilmember, I recognize that I failed to successfully balance both my legal obligation to zealously represent the interests of the City and the other individually-named defendants in the lawsuit, civility, and the City Council's adopted Respectful Workplace Conduct Policy. For this failure, and for the discomfort and offense it has caused you, you have my sincerest apology.

During your cross-examination, and as part of the effort to impeach your testimony, I sought to inquire into any potential bias you might have had with respect to controlled substances. The information the City had introduced into the record demonstrated that the encampment was a situs for severe, pervasive use and sale of controlled substances, evidenced by the documented presence of such activity, specifically including photos of used, dirty syringes scattered through the camp. And, as your testimony contested the presence of loose needles, and generally that the conditions in the encampment – including those of pervasive, illicit, devastating drug use – were a public nuisance, I felt it important to provide context for this viewpoint. Accordingly, I inquired into your nickname, and into your prior conviction.

Considering the situation with the benefit of hindsight, I acknowledge that this inquiry was, in effect, unnecessarily intrusive and demeaning to your character. Though I hadn't meant to attack, belittle, or offend you, these clumsy questions had that immediate result. Again, I am truly sorry – I did not, and do not, begrudge you in any manner, nor had I intended my inquiry to be perceived as such. Moreover, recognizing that you serve as one of the first elected African-American councilmembers in the City of Santa Cruz, and I myself am a white male, I embarrassingly, belatedly understand and appreciate how this line of inquiry could be seen and felt as particularly aggressive, hostile, and even prejudiced. I do apologize, and seek your forgiveness.

Given the opportunity to look back – and considering the broader context of our respective roles – I see how it would feel like an inquisition, an attack on your character from an unfair position of institutional authority. I firmly believe that when we make mistakes, we must acknowledge them, own up to them, and learn from them. I am sorry for my mistake, I am sorry for the pain that it has caused, and I am also embarrassed by it. I can promise you I will learn from it.

If you are willing, I would be grateful for the chance to tell you this myself. For now, please accept my sincere apology.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reed W. Gallogly', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Reed W. Gallogly
Attorney-at-Law